GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:848
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2002
MONITORING IN DISTRIBUTION OFFTAKE
ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN;MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether constant monitoring is done in the matter of distribution and off-take of foodgrains;

(b) the outcome of the monitoring work done last year along with the details regarding irregularities detected; and

(c) the objectives of monitoring and the action taken to rectify the shortcomings found during the monitoring?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SH KRISHNAM RAJU)

(a),(b)&(c): PDS is operated under the joint responsibility of the Centre and the StateGovernments. Whereas the Central Government is responsible for procurement, storage and bulk allocation upto the Public Distribution Centers, further allocation within the States, identification of families living below the poverty line, issue of ration cards and distribution of foodgrains in a fair and accountable manner is the responsibility of the State Governments.

As per TPDS guidelines, the States were advised to ensure a proper system of monitoring of the Fair Price Shops calling for regular inspections by District/Taluk level officers. States are also requested to ensure that monthly reports on TPDS monitoring are sent to the Government of India. The PDS Control Order issued on 31st August, 2001 lays down the details procedure for monitoring the functioning of the Fair Price Shops by the State Governments and inter alia provides for periodical system of reporting at the Fair Price Shop, District and State levels, linking of future allocation of foodgrains with the receipt of Utilization Certificates with respect to the allocations made in the past. States have been advised to take suitable remedial action immediately on gaps/shortcomings noticed at the time of review/inspections.